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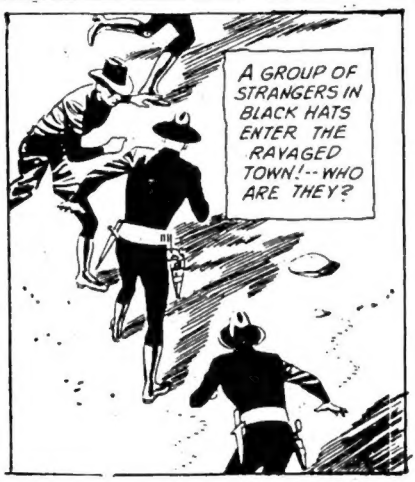
AFTER WEEKS OF WARNING RUMBLES – THE VOLCANO SUDDENLY ERUPTS!

FIERY LAVA – ASHES AND BOULDERS – DESTROY HOUSES AND PROPERTY –
TALK & BARRY 7/26

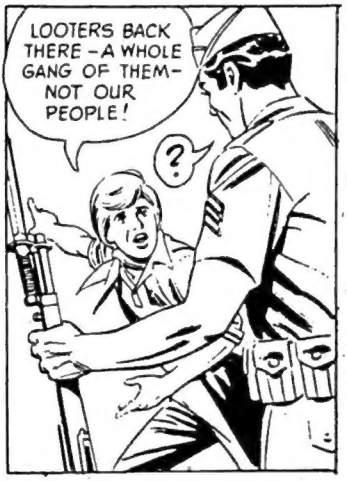
AS THE PEOPLE FLEE THE DESTRUCTION –


A GROUP OF STRANGERS IN BLACK HATS ENTER THE RAVAGED TOWN! -- WHO ARE THEY?

AS THE VOLCANO ERUPTS – DESTRUCTION OF THE TOWN CONTINUES –

-- STRANGERS IN BLACK LOOT THE RAVAGED TOWN!
JEWELRY
BANK
TALK & BARRY 7/27

!!


LOOTERS BACK THERE – A WHOLE GANG OF THEM – NOT OUR PEOPLE!
?

IN THE DEEP WOODS – THE SKULL CAVE!
YOU CANNOT GO IN NOW -- HE LISTENS TO MAGIC VOICE –
OH, THE RADIO?

-- VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS CONTINUE -- HEAR THEM IN THE BACKGROUND? -- THE STRICKEN TOWN HAS ANOTHER PROBLEM – LOOTERS
TALK & BARRY 7/28

SERGEANT – YOU SAW THE LOOTERS. LOCAL PEOPLE?
I COULDN'T SEE THEIR FACES – BUT I'D SAY THEY WEREN'T.

IF YOU COULDN'T SEE THEIR FACES, HOW DO YOU KNOW?
?
THEIR CLOTHES WERE DIFFERENT – ALL DRESSED ALIKE. ODD –

SERGEANT, COULD YOU DESCRIBE THE LOOTERS?
WELL, ALL DRESSED IN BLACK. I ORDERED TWO OF THEM TO STOP – AND SHOT OVER THEIR HEADS.
"THEY KEPT RUNNING, BUT THEIR HATS FELL OFF! THEY WERE BOTH BALD! THAT WAS ODD!"
FALK & BARRY 7/29

WHY ODD? MANY MEN ARE BALD.
THESE WERE TOO YOUNG TO BE BALD. IT JUST SEEMED ODD.

DID YOU CATCH ANY?
NO.
THIS ALL REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING -- WHAT?

VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS HAVE STOPPED – PEOPLE ARE RETURNING TO REBUILD THIS STRICKEN TOWN

– LOOTERS FROM THE OUTSIDE MADE OFF WITH HALF THE TOWN'S ASSETS – HERE'S THE POLICE CHIEF – OH, SIR--
FALK & BARRY 7/30

CHIEF, DO YOU THINK THE LOOTING WAS DONE BY AN ORGANIZED GANG?
CAN'T SAY YET –

THIS ALL SOUNDS SO FAMILIAR! CAN'T QUITE REMEMBER WHY. I'VE GOT TO REMEMBER!
WHAT IS THIS MYSTERY?

IN THE SKULL CAVE – THE FABULOUS MAJOR TREASURE ROOM –
A TOWN PARTIALLY DESTROYED BY VOLCANO – UNKNOWN LOOTERS MOVE IN--

HIS "MINOR" TREASURE ROOM –
THEY LOOT BANKS AND STORES – ALL DRESSED IN BLACK – TWO LOST THEIR HATS – BOTH BALD--

THE SOLDIER THOUGHT THAT WAS "ODD." WHY? IT REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING – IF I COULD ONLY PUT IT ALL TOGETHER!
FALK & BARRY 7/31

WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO THIS MYSTERY?
BEGINNING: "THE VULTURES"

IN A LARGE CITY-
CIVIL STRIFE!

FALK & BARRY 8/2
COPS!

PEOPLE AGAINST POLICE!

WHILE THE FIGHTING GOES ON--STRANGERS APPEAR--

WHILE CIVIL STRIFE RAGES IN THE CITY-
HERE COME THE COPS!

HURRY!

THE MYSTERIOUS LOOTERS! WHO ARE THEY?
FALK & BARRY 8/3

CIVIL STRIFE IN A LARGE CITY.

HURRY!
I AM!
FALK & BARRY 8/4
-AND LOOTING!

HALT-OR I'LL SHOOT!

460

WHILE CIVIL STRIFE ROCKED OUR CITY— LOOTERS EMPTIED CASH REGISTERS AND JEWELRY DISPLAYS—

MAGIC VOICE—
RADIO—SHH—
POLICE SHOT ONE LOOTER -- A STRANGER TO THE AREA -- DRESSED IN BLACK WITH SHAVEN HEAD—
TALK & BARRY 8/5

NO DOCUMENTS OR IDENTIFYING MARKS WERE FOUND ON THE MAN EXCEPT THE SMALL LETTER V TATTOOED ON HIS HEAD—
?!

IF ANYONE HAS ANY INFORMATION, CALL--
V! THAT'S IT!
WHAT IS IT?

NEXT NEWS AT 10—
CLICK!
FIRST— THE LOOTERS IN THE CITY BY THE VOLCANO— THEN IN A DIFFERENT COUNTRY DURING A STREET BATTLE--
THE SAME GANG?

UNCLE WALKER*, THERE'S A STORY ON THE RADIO--CAN WE LISTEN?
YES, REX, GO AHEAD.
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD ABOUT "BLACK-CLAD, BALD LOOTERS WITH A V TATTOO."
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BUT WHERE WAS IT? MAYBE THE ANSWER IS HERE!
TALK & BARRY 8/6
THE PHANTOM CHRONICLES!

ORGANIZED LOOTERS— BALD OR WITH SHAVEN HEADS— IT SOUNDS FAMILIAR—
THE PHANTOM CHRONICLES— FOUR CENTURIES OF PHANTOM ADVENTURES.

DID I READ THIS IN THESE CHRONICLES? OR WAS IT A STORY TOLD TO ME BY MY FATHER?
TALK & BARRY 8/7

HE READS ON— THE STIRRING ADVENTURES OF HIS GALLANT ANCESTORS— PHANTOMS BEFORE HIM!
NOTHING YET--

HERE IT IS!

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A GANG IN THE OLDEN TIMES CALLED "THE VULTURES"? WHAT AN AWFUL NAME.
SHH, TOMM. GO ON, UNCLE WALKER.

WE FOLLOW RETREATING ARMIES — ROBBING THE WOUNDED AND THE DYING.
VILE AND DISGUSTING!
TALK & BARRY 8/12
"THE VULTURES!"

OUR LEADER TELLS US IT IS FOLLY TO STEAL FROM THE STRONG — WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY WHO ARE WEAK.
PHANTOM TALE OF 1672...

PHANTOM TALE OF 1672...
YOU ADMIT THAT YOU ROB THE WOUNDED ON THE BATTLEFIELD?
AND THE DEAD, SIRE!

TALK & BARRY 8/13
"WARS ALSO MEAN REFUGEES — WEAK PEOPLE."

"WE ATTACK THEM AND ROB THEM."

VILE!
VILE, YOU CALL US? ARE WE ANY WORSE THAN GREAT LORDS WHO MAKE THE WARS?

WHY HAVE YOU SHAVEN YOUR HEAD LIKE A MONK, VILLAIN?
LIKE THE BIRD WHOSE NAME WE TOOK AND WHOSE HABITS WE COPY...

HE TOO IS BALD — AND LIVES OFF THE DYING AND THE DEAD —
TALK & BARRY 8/14

THAT IS IN THAT BOOK? AWFUL PEOPLE.
I'M GLAD IT WAS IN THE OLDEN TIMES — 300 YEARS AGO!
MAYBE THEY'RE STILL WITH US!

"I WAS SICKENED BY KNOWLEDGE OF THE VICIOUS LOOTER GANG – 'THE VULTURES!'"
FALK & BARRY 8/16
"I HANDED HIM TO THE AUTHORITIES. I KNEW THEY WOULD MAKE QUICK WORK OF THE VILLAIN."
I AM DETERMINED TO HUNT THIS EVIL GANG AND EXTERMINATE THEM!
DID HE, UNCLE WALKER?
HE TRIED – BUT DIDN'T FINISH THE JOB – THAT WAS 300 YEARS AGO –
TOMORROW: MORE–
THE PHANTOM CHRONICLES.
I FOUND MORE REFERENCES TO THE "VULTURES" – ONE ABOUT A CENTURY LATER DURING THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.
!!
"AND THE MOBS STORMED THE PALACES AND SACKED THEM."
"THE VULTURES – THE LOOTERS-FOLLOWED – STEALING FROM NOBLE AND COMMONER ALIKE."
"LATER – IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR – THEY ROBBED THE BATTLEFIELD LIKE GHOULS!"
FALK & BARRY 8/17
THE PHANTOM CHRONICLES.
DURING WORLD WAR I HELPLESS REFUGEES MOVED ALL OVER EUROPE. MY OWN GRANDFATHER REPORTS THIS –
FALK & BARRY 9/18
"A GANG CALLING THEMSELVES 'VULTURES' ATTACKED AND ROBBED THE HELPLESS PEOPLE."
"HE WROTE THAT A DOZEN WERE CAPTURED AND HUNG TO PUT AN END TO THE GANG."
THAT WAS OVER 50 YEARS AGO, BUT GRANDFATHER WAS WRONG! THE VULTURES ARE NOT FINISHED!

THOSE NASTY OLD VULTURE GANGS ARE STILL ALIVE? AFTER 300 YEARS?
HOW OLD ARE THEY?
NOT THE SAME MEN. MAYBE THEIR DESCENDANTS—

"JUST LAST WEEK—IN A CITY WHERE A VOLCANO ERUPTED—LOOTERS!"

"IN ANOTHER CITY TORN BY CIVIL STRIFE—MORE LOOTERS!"

IN BOTH CASES THEY SOUNDED LIKE—"THE VULTURES"!
!
!
TALK & BARRY 8/19

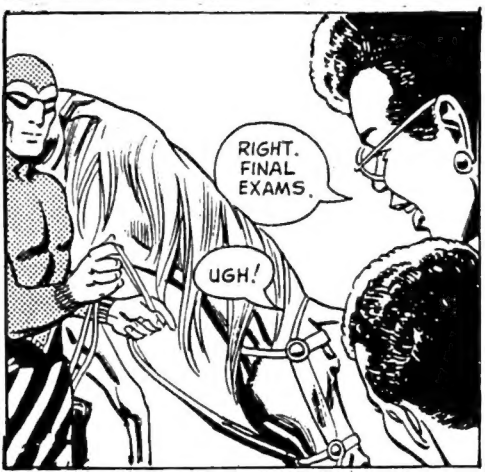
COLONEL WOROBU, JUNGLE PATROL.
COLONEL—FORGIVE ME FOR WAKING YOU AT THIS HOUR.
UH—WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

ASK OUR RESEARCH STAFF FOR A LIST OF LOOTING CASES AROUND THE WORLD DURING THIS YEAR. OK?
ER—YES.

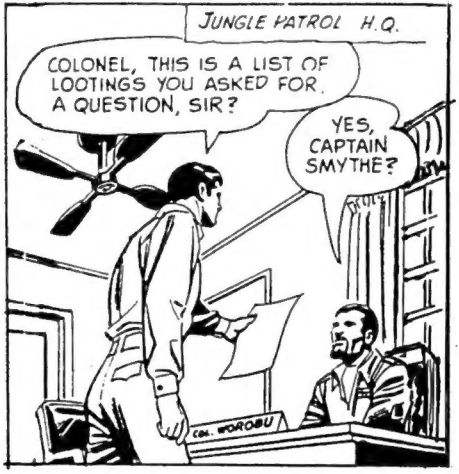
OF ALL THE—NOW, WHY WOULD HE WANT THAT?
TALK & BARRY 8/20

WHAT NOW, UNCLE WALKER*?
ONE GUESS, REX.
FIND THE VULTURES!

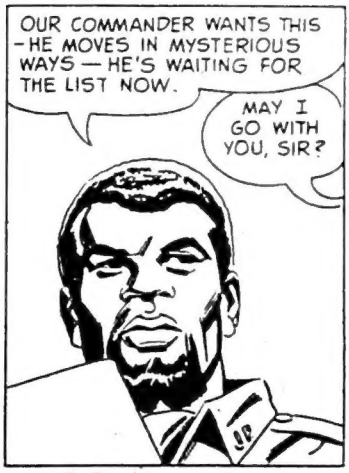
UNCLE WALKER*, CAN WE GO WITH YOU TO FIND THE VULTURES?
YOU CANNOT, REX. YOU HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL. RIGHT, MISS TAGAMA?
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.


RIGHT. FINAL EXAMS.
UGH!

THOSE VULTURES—TERRIBLE BAD MEN—PLEASE—DON'T LET THEM HURT YOU.
TALK & BARRY 8/21
I'LL BE CAREFUL, REX. DON'T WORRY.


JUNGLE PATROL H.Q.
COLONEL, THIS IS A LIST OF LOOTINGS YOU ASKED FOR. A QUESTION, SIR?
YES, CAPTAIN SMYTHE?
COL. WOROBU

WHAT DO WORLD-WIDE LOOTINGS HAVE TO DO WITH US - THE JUNGLE PATROL?
NOTHING - AS FAR AS I KNOW.


OUR COMMANDER WANTS THIS - HE MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS — HE'S WAITING FOR THE LIST NOW.
MAY I GO WITH YOU, SIR?

COME ALONG!
THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO SEE WHO HE IS!
TALK & BARRY 8/23

SIR, WHY IS OUR COMMANDER "UNKNOWN"?
I DON'T KNOW. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY, CAPTAIN.

IS IT AGAINST OUR RULES TO LEARN WHO HE IS?
NO RULE. JUST AN ANCIENT CUSTOM.

WHEN WE DELIVER THIS LIST OF LOOTINGS WILL HE COME FOR IT?
I ASSUME SO. HE ASKED FOR IT.
TALK & BARRY 8/24

ER, SIR, SUPPOSE WE HANG AROUND AND HAVE A PEEK AT HIM?
HMM - INTERESTING THOUGHT, CAPTAIN.

MESSAGE FOR THE COMMANDER - HE ASKED FOR IT. HOW SOON WILL HE COME FOR IT?
WE NEVER KNOW, COLONEL.
TALK & BARRY 8/25

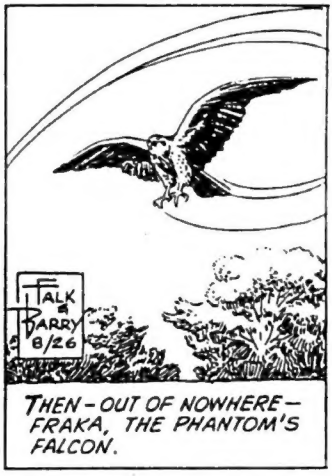
WHAT'S HE DOING WITH IT?
PUTTING IT IN A SACK.

WHAT'S HE DOING NOW?
TYING IT TO THAT LINE.

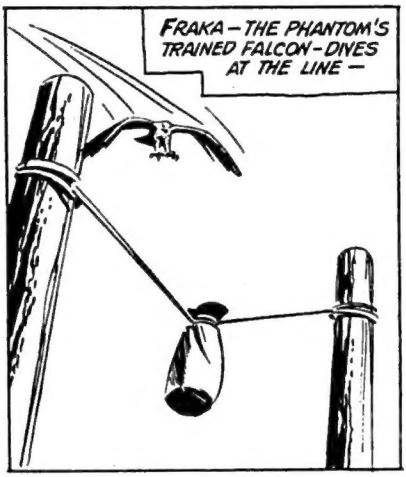
I BET HE RIDES BY AND GRABS IT.
MAYBE, CAPTAIN. LET'S HIDE AND WATCH.

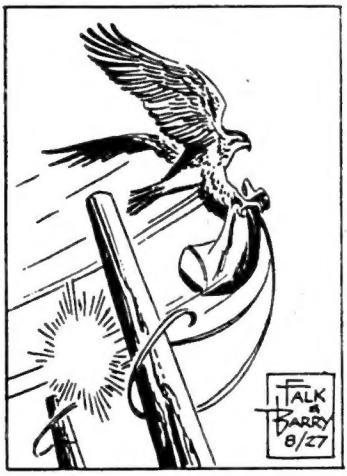
A MESSAGE WAITS FOR THE UNKNOWN COMMANDER OF THE JUNGLE PATROL...

COLONEL, IN ALL THE HISTORY OF THE PATROL WE'LL BE THE FIRST TO SEE HIM!
AN EXCITING MOMENT, CAPTAIN!


FALK & BARRY 8/26
THEN - OUT OF NOWHERE - FRAKA, THE PHANTOM'S FALCON.

WHAT'S THAT?
A BIRD!


FRAKA - THE PHANTOM'S TRAINED FALCON - DIVES AT THE LINE -


FALK & BARRY 8/27

HEY - THAT BIRD TOOK THE PAPERS FOR THE COMMANDER!
YES, HIS FALCON. HE WILL DELIVER IT.

FRAKA!

AT LAST - I THOUGHT WE'D SEE THE COMMANDER.
SO DID I, CAPTAIN - NEXT TIME.

FOOLISH MEN - YOU WILL SEE THE PHANTOM ONLY WHEN HE WISHES.

FALK & BARRY 8/28
A LIST OF LOOTINGS IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS! MAYBE THIS WILL LEAD US TO THE "VULTURES"!

LAST ERUPTIONS WERE A WEEK AGO. LAVA IS STILL HOT— THE DANGER IS NOT OVER!

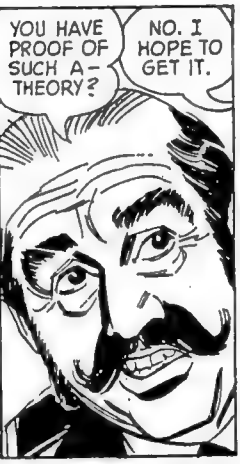
HAS THE TOWN RECOVERED YET?
TALK & BARRY 8/30
THE LOOTINGS WERE MORE DAMAGING THAN THE VOLCANO!

LIKE A PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS— STOLE EVERYTHING OF VALUE THEY COULD CARRY.
LOCUSTS OR VULTURES?

VULTURES? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I'M NOT SURE— MIND TAKING ME TO YOUR CHIEF?

MR. WALKER —YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE LOOTERS WHO WERE HERE?
ONLY A THEORY, CHIEF. I BELIEVE THEY'RE ORGANIZED—

—A WORLD-WIDE GANG EXISTING FOR CENTURIES —THAT PREYS ON DISASTER VICTIMS TOO WEAK TO STOP THEM.


YOU HAVE PROOF OF SUCH A— THEORY?
NO. I HOPE TO GET IT.

WHEN YOU DO, WE'LL BE GLAD TO HEAR IT— EXCUSE ME NOW?
A NUT.
?
HE DOESN'T BELIEVE ME—
TALK & BARRY 8/31

I'M WITH THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER. I HEARD WHAT YOU TOLD THE CHIEF ABOUT THE LOOTERS.
HE WASN'T IMPRESSED.
TALK & BARRY 9/1

I AM. TELL ME MORE.
GLAD TO.

SAYS LOOTERS ARE ORGANIZED GANG CALLED "VULTURES."
VISITOR CLAIMS WORLD-WIDE MOB— EXISTED FOR CENTURIES.

MR. WALKER*- IF YOUR IDEA IS CORRECT, THAT GANG MAY COME FOR YOU.
I KNOW.
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.

IN ANOTHER TOWN—
YOU HAD TROUBLE HERE — STREET FIGHTING?
TERRIBLE. AND THE LOOTING — WOW!

YOU SHOT A LOOTER LAST WEEK?
DID YOU HEAR ME ON THE RADIO? YEAH —

I HAD TO SHOOT — HE WOULDN'T STOP. YOU WANT TO SEE HIM? IN THERE.
MORGUE
FALK & BARRY 9/2

NOBODY CLAIMED HIM YET.
TATTOO ON HIS HEAD — V FOR VULTURE!

ER — MR. WALKER*, YOUR LOOTER THEORY IS IMAGINATIVE, BUT —
PROOF? WHEN I GET IT I'LL TELL YOU —
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.

THAT'S THE SECOND POLICE CHIEF WHO THINKS I'M CRAZY. I WONDER IF THOSE PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE ME.
FALK & BARRY 9/3

THAT'S THE STORY. WILL YOU PRINT IT?
IT'S WORTH PRINTING. WE HAD A TERRIBLE PROBLEM WITH LOOTERS HERE.

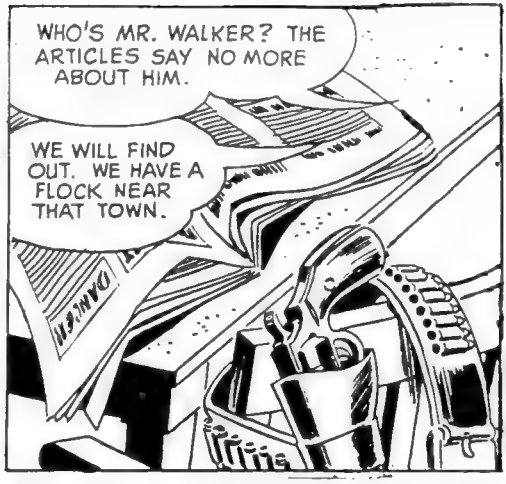
SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, MR. WALKER. WON'T THAT GANG COME AFTER YOU?
THAT'S THE IDEA.

IN A SECRET PLACE —
FALK & BARRY 9/4
?!
?!
CLAIMS LOOTERS WERE OUTSIDE

SIR, WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS? IF THIS GANG EXISTS — AND COMES AFTER YOU —!
SUPPOSE YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK — AND THE HAYSTACK IS THE WHOLE WORLD.
CLAIMS LOOTERS WERE OUTSIDE MOB CALLED "VULTURES"

WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER IF THE NEEDLE CAME OUT TO FIND YOU?

HOW COULD MR. WALKER KNOW ABOUT US?
HE COULDN'T. THERE HAVE BEEN NO LEAKS. JUST A WILD GUESS.
FALK & BARRY 9/6
CLAIMS LOOTERS WERE OUTSIDE JOB CALLED THE VULTURES


WHO'S MR. WALKER? THE ARTICLES SAY NO MORE ABOUT HIM.
WE WILL FIND OUT. WE HAVE A FLOCK NEAR THAT TOWN.

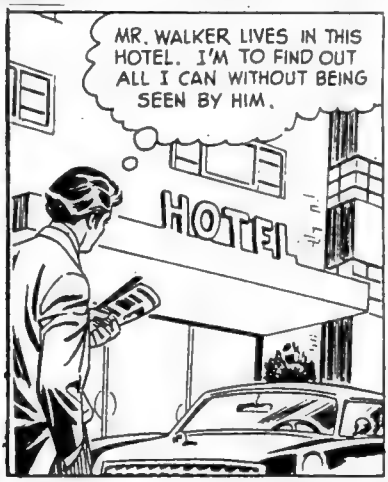
A MR. WALKER — FIND HIM — I KNOW YOU CAN — BUT BE CAREFUL.

I'M A FREE-LANCE WRITER. WHERE CAN I FIND THIS MR. WALKER?
HE LEFT THIS ADDRESS. WHAT'S YOUR INTEREST?

TO WRITE A MAGAZINE ARTICLE ABOUT HIS LOOTERS' THEORY — IT'S FASCINATING IF TRUE.
FALK & BARRY 9/7

YOUNG FELLOW SAYS HE'S A MAGAZINE WRITER. I GAVE HIM YOUR ADDRESS.
—THANK YOU.

MAYBE THIS IS A "VULTURE" SNAPPING AT OUR BAIT, DEVIL.


MR. WALKER LIVES IN THIS HOTEL. I'M TO FIND OUT ALL I CAN WITHOUT BEING SEEN BY HIM.
HOTEL

MR. WALKER — FROM BENGALI OF ALL PLACES — NO PROFESSION LISTED.
THANKS

THE GUY IN 707? YEAH. STRANGE ABOUT HIM. HE'S GOT A BIG DOG WITH HIM — LIKE A WOLF.
?

STILL WAITING FOR THE "VULTURES" TO FIND US. LET'S HOPE THEY'RE LOOKING, DEVIL.
FALK & BARRY 9/8

THANKS.
HE WALKS HIS DOG EVERY NIGHT ABOUT 8 – THERE HE GOES NOW.

SKELETON KEY WORK? ALWAYS HAS -- YES!
707
709
FALK & BARRY 9/9

–NO CLOTHES – WHAT KIND OF TRAVELER IS HE? THERE MUST BE SOMETHING HERE!

NO LUGGAGE, NO CLOTHES. MUST BE SOMETHING! IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE I HAVE.
FALK & BARRY 9/10

MUST BE SOME CLUE AS TO WHO HE IS. NOTHING HERE –

BELLBOY SAID HE WALKS HIS DOG FOR HALF AN HOUR. I'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME –

CAN I HELP YOU?
!!

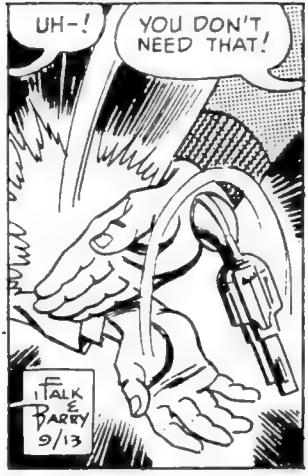
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?
UH– ISN'T THIS ROOM 709?

NO, 707.
OH, I BEG YOUR PARDON. I'M IN THE WRONG ROOM.
FALK & BARRY 9/11

EXCUSE ME –
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE IN THE WRONG ROOM.
707

I SAID – WRONG ROOM! STEP ASIDE!

YOU'RE NOT IN THE WRONG ROOM. YOU CAME TO SEARCH MY ROOM BUT YOU FOUND NOTHING.
YOU--!


UH-!
YOU DON'T NEED THAT!
FALK & BARRY 9/13

HE SWINGS – LIKE HITTING A BRICK WALL!
OUCH!

A WIG? YES--!
UH-!

AS THE PHANTOM HITS THE INTRUDER – HIS WIG FALLS OFF –

THE TATTOOED V – !

AT LAST – A LEAD TO THE "VULTURES" – WHEN THIS ONE WAKES UP!
!
FALK & BARRY 9/14

THAT V IS TATTOOED – AND WON'T WASH OFF!
WAKE UP – START TALKING!

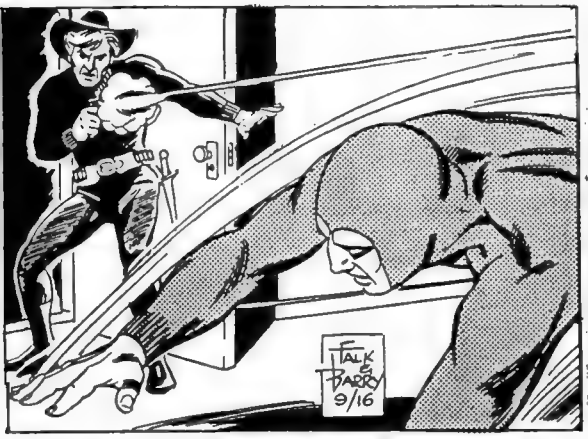
WHEN THE "VULTURES" SEND A MAN ON A JOB – THEY SEND ANOTHER ONE TO COVER HIM.
!

--AND ANOTHER ONE TO COVER HIM!
!
FALK & BARRY 9/15

WAKE UP- START TALKING. WHERE IS YOUR "VULTURES" HEADQUARTERS?
UH- UH-

-A SINGLE BARK FROM DEVIL. WITHOUT LOOKING- THE PHANTOM QUICKLY DROPS-
?
WOOF

AS THE VULTURES ATTACK!


TALK & BARRY 9/16

THE PHANTOM DROPS- HIS GUN IS OUT BEFORE HE HITS THE FLOOR-

?!

ANOTHER VULTURE?!
TALK & BARRY 9/17
AND ANOTHER ONE- HE DOESN'T SEE!

AS THE THIRD "VULTURE" WATCHES!
!

TWO OF YOU FELLOW VULTURES?

THE V TATTOO OF THE VULTURES!
YES!

BUT ONE "VULTURE" GETS AWAY.
TALK & BARRY 9/18
GOT TO GET BACK TO HQ AND REPORT THIS GUY!

THE PHANTOM AND TWO OF THE MYSTERIOUS BAND CALLED "THE VULTURES."
WAKE UP, VULTURES!

UH -- UH --
START TALKING!
FALK & BARRY 9/20

THAT MR. WALKER*! HE GOT TWO OF OUR FLOCK!
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.

YOU---UH.
FALK & BARRY 9/21

WHAT A WALLOP! DID YOU -- IS HE DEAD?
NO, DOZING. HE TRIED TO GRAB MY GUN. NOW, YOU, TALK!

WHO ARE YOU, MR. WALKER*-- A COP?
COP? WEARING A MASK? NAW—
I WANT INFORMATION. HOW ARE YOU ORGANIZED - WHERE'S YOUR HQ?
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.

THAT MARK ON YOUR HEAD--V FOR VULTURE-- ARE YOU ALL SHAVED THAT WAY?
WHEN WE JOIN.

ARE YOU ALL OVER THE WORLD?
I GUESS SO. THEY DON'T TELL US MUCH--EACH COUNTRY HAS A FLOCK.

A FLOCK OF VULTURES? TO ROB THE WEAK AND DYING? WHERE IS YOUR MAIN HQ?
I DON'T KNOW. IT'S CALLED "THE NEST."

IN THAT HOTEL-- ROOM 707--
WORK FAST BEFORE THEY SPILL EVERYTHING!
HOTEL
FALK & BARRY 9/22

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AS THE PHANTOM DASHES OUT OF THE GAS-FILLED ROOM.

FALK & BARRY 9/27

"THE VULTURES" RESCUE THEIR OWN--

COME ON, GET OUT OF HERE FAST!
WOW, IS THIS GUY MADE OF LEAD?
WEIGHS A TON!

FALK & BARRY 9/28

?!
!

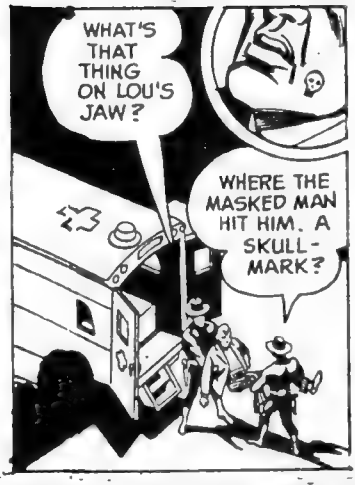
GET THAT GUY BEFORE HE GETS AWAY.

I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING, HONEST.
WE'LL MAKE SURE.

FALK & BARRY 9/29

HE'S HEAVIER THAN LEAD! CAN'T WE DROP HIM?
NO, BIG V WANTS TO TALK TO HIM.

THIS OLD WAGON COMES IN HANDY.
YEAH. GET GOING!


WHAT'S THAT THING ON LOU'S JAW?
WHERE THE MASKED MAN HIT HIM. A SKULL-MARK?

THE PHANTOM'S DEVIL!
FALK & BARRY 9/30

DEVIL FOLLOWS HIS MASTER AS FAR AS HE CAN.

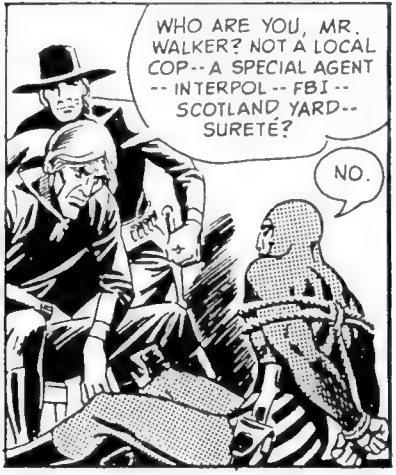
HEY, HE'S MOVING!
TIE HIM BEFORE HE COMES TO. HE'S LIKE A BULL!
FALK & BARRY 10/1

WHY FOOL WITH HIM, BIG V? HE'S A COP OF SOME KIND. KNOCK HIM OFF.
COPS DON'T WEAR MASKS. THERE'S SOMETHING UNUSUAL HERE.

HERE HE IS, BIG V. CALLS HIMSELF MR. WALKER*.
LOOKS INTERESTING.
*FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS.

I THINK HE'S WAKING UP. TURN HIM OVER.
TURN OVER. OUCH! LIKE KICKING CONCRETE!
FALK & BARRY 10/2

-- I WANT TO KNOW WHO HE IS AND WHY HE TAKES SUCH AN INTEREST IN US.
AH, HE HEARS ME, EH, MR. WALKER?
CONT'D

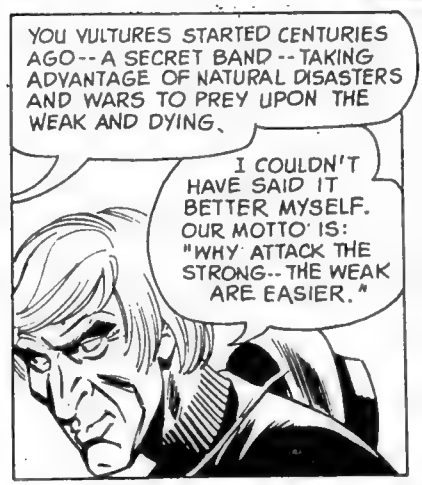

WHO ARE YOU, MR. WALKER? NOT A LOCAL COP--A SPECIAL AGENT --INTERPOL--FBI--SCOTLAND YARD--SURETÉ?
NO.

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT US? WE CONCEAL OUR WORK CAREFULLY.
I GUESSED.

ANSWER!
NO VIOLENCE. THAT'S FOR LATER!
FALK & BARRY 10/4

WHAT'S THAT'S MARK ON YOUR JAW?
WHERE THE @%#!! HIT ME! IT WON'T COME OFF!

THAT'S WHERE "MR. WALKER" HIT YOU? REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING - I'LL THINK OF IT.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT US?
FALK & BARRY 10/5


YOU VULTURES STARTED CENTURIES AGO--A SECRET BAND--TAKING ADVANTAGE OF NATURAL DISASTERS AND WARS TO PREY UPON THE WEAK AND DYING.
I COULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BETTER MYSELF. OUR MOTTO IS: "WHY ATTACK THE STRONG--THE WEAK ARE EASIER."

YES, IN EVERY NATION WHERE THERE'S ANYTHING WORTH STEALING.
WHERE IS YOUR MAIN HQ? YOUR "BIG NEST"?

YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO TELL YOU WHERE OUR MAIN HQ IS, OUR "BIG NEST"?
WHY NOT? YOU DON'T PLAN TO LET ME GO--NOT ALIVE.

CORRECT. WHETHER YOU DIE PAINLESSLY OR NOT DEPENDS ON YOUR--COOPERATION.

FALK & BARRY 10/6
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
WHAT I ASKED--WHO ARE YOU, HOW YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT US--I WISH TO PLUG THE LEAKS, "MR. WALKER."

"MR. WALKER!" THE GHOST WHO WALKS! SIGN OF THE SKULL! THE PHANTOM!

NOW I REMEMBER! GHOST WHO WALKS! THE PHANTOM!
WHAT'S THAT, CHIEF?

OUR ANCIENT RECORDS SHOW THAT FOR CENTURIES THERE HAS BEEN A "PHANTOM" FIGHTING US --

YES -- THROUGH THE CENTURIES -- A PHANTOM -- A GHOST WHO WALKS -- A MAN WHO CANNOT DIE.

ARE YOU THIS PHANTOM, "MR. WALKER?"
FALK & BARRY 10/7
I HAVE MANY NAMES. THAT IS ONE OF THEM.

WHEN THERE IS AN EARTHQUAKE OR OTHER DISASTER, HOW DO YOU VULTURES MOVE SO FAST TO GET THERE AND LOOT?
ORGANIZATION, "MR. WALKER"--
CAREFUL, ZAK. THIS IS AN ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FOE -- THE PHANTOM!

ANY MORE QUESTIONS BEFORE WE START OURS?
WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR MEN?

ALL SORTS -- MOSTLY EX-CONS WHO CAN'T GO STRAIGHT. LIKE ZAK HERE, WHO HIT YOU.

ZAK -- HAVE YOU TRIED TO REMOVE THAT SKULL MARK?
I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING! IT WON'T COME OFF.

THE PHANTOM -- "THE MAN WHO CANNOT DIE." WE'RE GOING TO SEE IF IT'S TRUE!
FALK & BARRY 10/8

"AT OUR CENTRAL "BIG NEST," WE WATCH THE ENTIRE WORLD BY RADIO, TV AND TELETYPE."

IF THERE IS A MAJOR DISASTER ANYWHERE, WE GET THERE -- FAST, BEFORE THE VICTIMS CAN DEFEND THEMSELVES!
FALK & BARRY 10/9

A GREAT DAY FOR "THE VULTURES!" OUR RECORDS SHOW DOZENS OF TIMES WHEN A "PHANTOM" CAPTURED OUR PEOPLE.
. FOR THE FIRST TIME, WE HAVE CAPTURED A PHANTOM, OR IS IT THE PHANTOM -- ALWAYS THE SAME?
FALK & BARRY 10/11

ARE YOU TRULY "THE MAN WHO CANNOT DIE"? WE WILL SEE!
FIRST, I WISH TO SEE YOUR FACE.

THERE WAS ALSO A LEGEND ABOUT THAT--
HE WHO LOOKS UPON THE PHANTOM'S FACE WILL DIE HORRIBLY.
!!

"HE WHO LOOKS UPON THE PHANTOM'S FACE WILL DIE -- HORRIBLY." IS THAT THE LEGEND?
IT IS.

AND IS IT A FACT?
TRY IT AND SEE, BIG V.

WHAT UTTER NONSENSE! -- HOW HORRIBLY?

HORRIBLY.
FALK & BARRY 10/12

"HE WHO LOOKS ON THE PHANTOM'S FACE WILL DIE--HORRIBLY."

OH, WHO WANTS TO SEE YOUR FACE? BESIDES--WE VULTURES LIVE SO CLOSE TO DANGER, WHY ADD TO IT--
TAKE HIM OUT.

DON'T YOU WANT TO QUESTION HIM?
NO, FINISH HIM. THAT ONE WILL NEVER TALK...
NOW LET US SEE IF HE CAN DIE.
FALK & BARRY 10/13

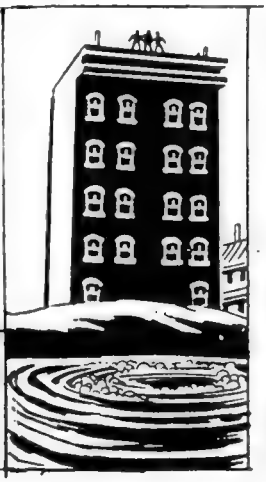
FALK & BARRY 10/14
NO CLUES--SO THE POLICE WILL ASK NO QUESTIONS. OUR METHODS ARE SIMPLE.
YOU WILL BE UNCONSCIOUS--THEN TOSSED INTO THE RIVER WHERE YOU WILL DROWN. ANY LAST WORDS?
THE PHANTOM'S ONLY ANSWER IS A LOUD WHISTLE.

AFTER TWO HOURS UNDER-WATER--THOSE ROPES WILL DISSOLVE.

IS HE OUT?
YES, I HIT HIM HARD ENOUGH TO KILL AN ORDINARY MAN.
TOSS HIM OVER.

WOW, HE'S HEAVY.

FALK & BARRY 10/15



SANK LIKE A ROCK--HE'S GONE.
GOOD-BYE, MR. "MAN WHO CANNOT DIE"--

DEVIL HEARS A FAMILIAR WHISTLE.

FALK & BARRY 10/16

AS THE UNCONSCIOUS PHANTOM SINKS IN THE RIVER...

LONG AGO, THE PHANTOM TRAINED DEVIL IN WATER RESCUE --
PULL, DEVIL-- PULL.

GOOD BOY, DEVIL!

FALK & BARRY 10/18

DEVIL STRUGGLES-- A HEAVY LOAD --

FALK & BARRY 10/19

THINK THAT GUY WAS REALLY THE PHANTOM?
WE'LL NEVER KNOW-- HE'S DEAD AND GONE!

UH-- WHERE ARE WE, DEVIL? YES-- THE RIVER!

WET ROPE-- HE SAID THEY'D DISSOLVE-- THEY DO!
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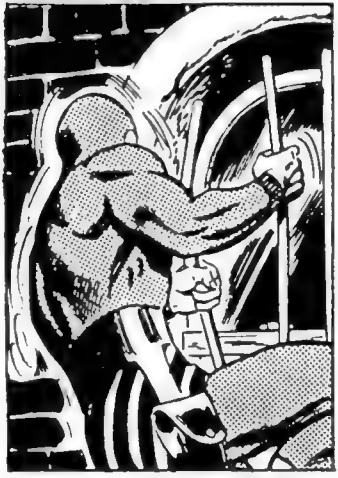
HOW DID I GET OUT OF THE RIVER--? TEETH MARKS ON MY ARM! YOU PULLED ME OUT, DEVIL!
FALK & BARRY 10/20

YOU REMEMBERED YOUR LESSON! GOOD BOY!

THE HOUSE OF THE VULTURES. WAIT, DEVIL.
TALK & BARRY 10/21



?
GREAK
GREAK

WHAT'S GOING ON--UH!

I CALLED MAX TO BRING UP YOUR CAR. NO ANSWER, BIG V.
HE KNOWS I'M IN A HURRY. LET'S GO DOWN TO THE GARAGE.

HERE'S THE CAR. MAX WAS POLISHING IT.
BUT WHERE'S MAX?

THERE HE IS! KNOCKED OUT! LOOK! ON HIS JAW--
THE SKULL MARK!
TALK & BARRY 10/22

TALK & BARRY 10/23

THE SKULL MARK ON HIS JAW--LIKE ON YOU!
IN THE "NEST" OF THE VULTURES.
BUT THAT'S THE PHANTOM MARK. HE'S DEAD! WE THREW HIM IN THE RIVER!

THAT WINDOW-- HE CAME BACK FROM THE RIVER!
CAME BACK DEAD! THE GHOST WHO WALKS!

THAT WAS THE PHANTOM WE THREW IN THE RIVER.
HE CAME BACK--THE GHOST WHO WALKS--

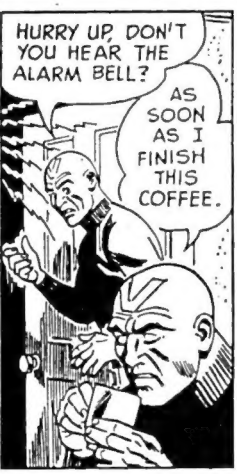
THE MAN WHO CANNOT DIE!
PRESS THE ALARM BELL!

WAIT FOR ME!
EVERYBODY TO MY OFFICE!

GET TO BIG V'S OFFICE FAST!
BRRING!
ALARM BELL?
WHAT HAPPENED?
FALK & BARRY 10/25

WHAT'S THE BELL FOR? WHAT HAPPENED?
NOBODY KNOWS. JUST GET TO BIG V'S OFFICE ON THE DOUBLE!

IN THE "NEST" OF THE VULTURES.
BIG V, WHAT'LL WE DO?
--I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!
FALK & BARRY 10/26


HURRY UP, DON'T YOU HEAR THE ALARM BELL?
AS SOON AS I FINISH THIS COFFEE.

URK!

WHERE'S THE AMMUNITION AND GUNS?
UH -- WE THREW YOU IN THE RIVER. I TIED YOU-- YOU'RE DEAD--
FALK & BARRY 10/27

"THE PHANTOM IS ROUGH WITH ROUGH-NECKS"--OLD JUNGLE SAYING.
TELL ME
UH--TWO DOORS DOWN--

COME IN! SHUT THAT DOOR AND LOCK IT!
WHAT'S HAPPENED?
BIG V'S WHITE AS A SHEET!

YOU ALL SAW THAT PHANTOM-- THE GUY WE THREW IN THE RIVER! HE'S BACK -- HE'S IN THIS HOUSE!

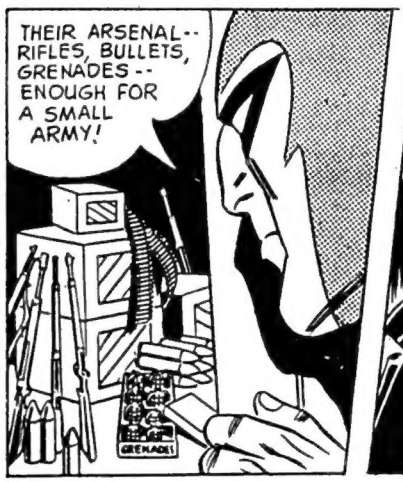
BIG V, HOW COULD THAT GUY BE BACK? WE TIED HIM. I KNOCKED HIM OUT!
HE'S BACK! RIGHT, ZAK?
--HE GOT MAX WITH A MARK LIKE THIS!
WE SAW HIM SINK!

UH--EVERYBODY'S HERE EXCEPT SAM. WHERE'S SAM?
FALK & BARRY 10/28

SAM--!

SAM--KNOCKED OUT --THE SKULL MARK ON HIS JAW, TOO!

SEARCH EVERY ROOM! FIND HIM!
FIND A GHOST?


THEIR ARSENAL--RIFLES, BULLETS, GRENADES--ENOUGH FOR A SMALL ARMY!
GRENADES

DYNAMITE AND FUSES--GOOD!
FALK & BARRY 10/29
TNT

YOU HEARD MY ORDER! GO FIND HIM!
ARE YOU KIDDING? NOT ME!
ME EITHER. YOU FIND HIM, BIG V.

YOU DEFY ME? THIS IS MUTINY! I'LL REPORT THIS TO THE BIG NEST! YOU KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

UH--BIG V--BEHIND YOU.
DON'T ARGUE! GO OUT AND FIND HIM!
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NOT NECESSARY, BIG V.
?!
FALK & BARRY 10/30

THAT'S HIM--!
I HIT HIM!
I PUSHED HIM INTO THE RIVER!
I TIED HIM!
NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS. IN 80 SECONDS THIS HOUSE BLOWS UP!
HOW DID YOU GET OUT?

NO USE TO CALL IN THE LAW. NO EVIDENCE AGAINST YOU-- BUT I KNOW WHAT YOU ARE...
TALK & BARRY 11/1
THE VULTURES!

YOU'VE GOT "NESTS" ALL OVER THE WORLD. IN A MINUTE THERE'LL BE ONE LESS--THIS ONE!
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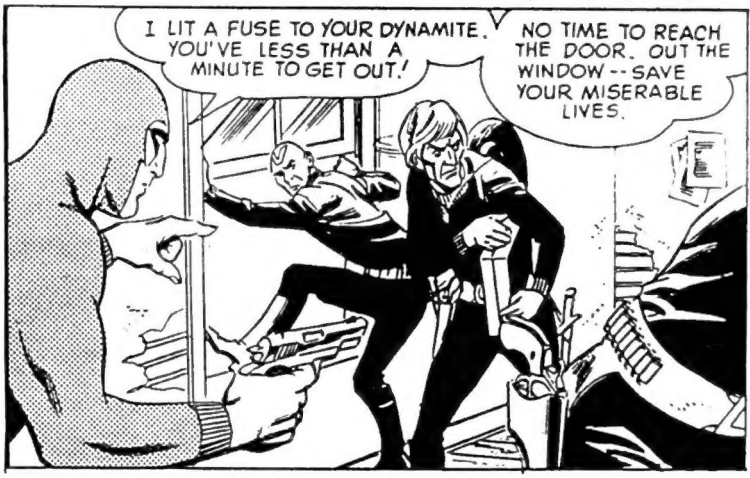
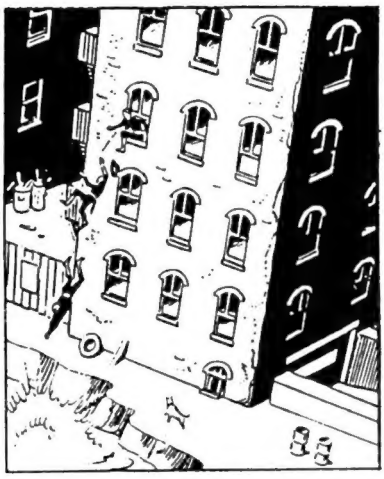

I LIT A FUSE TO YOUR DYNAMITE. YOU'VE LESS THAN A MINUTE TO GET OUT!
NO TIME TO REACH THE DOOR. OUT THE WINDOW--SAVE YOUR MISERABLE LIVES.



COME BACK, YOU FOOL. YOU CAN'T GET OUT THAT WAY IN TIME!
TALK & BARRY 11/2

BIG V, NOT THAT WAY. YOU CAN'T MAKE IT!
NO--GO AWAY! GHOST WHO WALKS-!

NO--MAN WHO CANNOT DIE-!
?

TALK & BARRY 11/3

EEEEEE

THE "NEST" OF THE VULTURES ---
TALK & BARRY 11/4

SOME OF THE FLEEING VULTURES MAKE IT TO SHORE--

DEVIL, THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE -- THEY GOT OUT, EXCEPT THEIR BOSS-- BIG V--

HIS BRIEFCASE. HE WAS TRYING TO GET AWAY WITH IT-- WHAT'S IN IT?

UH-- WHO ARE YOU?
THE TOWN POLICE CHIEF--
EASY, CHIEF. DON'T REACH FOR THAT GUN. YOU DON'T KNOW ME. THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT.

A GANG IN YOUR TOWN-- PROFESSIONAL LOOTERS-- YOU'LL FIND A LIST OF THEM IN HERE, THE ROSTER OF "THE VULTURES."

ALSO A LIST OF THEIR ACTIVITIES-- MAKES IT EASY TO PICK THEM UP. SORRY TO WAKE YOU-- GOOD NIGHT.

GONE! WHO IN BLAZES WAS THAT! OR DID I DREAM IT?
NO-- THE BRIEF-CASE!
TALK & BARRY 11/5
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Daily Press
POLICE CHIEF REVEALS SECRET LOOTERS' GANG IN TOWN
"IT WILL BE EASY TO ROUND THEM UP-- DRAGNET IS OUT," HE DECLARES

THIS WAS THE VULTURE HQ. NOT MUCH LEFT FOR EVIDENCE HERE!
CHIEF SAYS HE'S GOT ENOUGH. WONDER HOW THE PLACE BLEW UP.

THE END OF THIS VULTURE "NEST," BUT THERE ARE OTHERS WITH THEIR MISERABLE MOTTO-- "PREY ON THE WEAK-- THEY'RE EASIER."
TALK & BARRY 11/6

SOMEWHERE IS THE MAIN ONE, THE "BIG NEST." SOMEDAY WE'LL FIND IT, DEVIL.
NEXT WEEK: NEW ADVENTURE.